Middle and High school teacher librarian jig-saw discussion Monday, October 10, 2011

Librarian-Provocateur

The three P’s…Profession

By Mark Ray

Professions:

Jillian: think in 3’s. Profession, program and place. 40-50 years ago, librarians were the keeper of books. All books were in order, and it was a quiet place. Technology appeared.

Lisa: Role has changed. No longer a keeper of information. Information is readily available via the internet.

Peggy: Existential crisis?? Not enough to change your name, but do the same old thing. Admonishes AASL for the school librarian moniker. I like the Teacher Librarian title.

Gretchen: change the perception, and stereo-type to move our program forward.

Brenda: We are the ones who can teach 21st century skills, critical thinking skills. Perception that administration and school boards have as well as the public.

Teach more, librarian less. Conduit to help students and adults decipher information. High school has a more difficult time doing that because we don’t have a captive audience with set classes every day.

Middle school teacher librarians see every class at least once per week during ELA time. Washington also sees every student at least once per week.

At Hellgate, freshmen and seniors are the best bet for working with kids and teaching a curriculum. Some teachers are not aware that we have a curriculum.

Lisa and Rebecca at Target Range see 6th grade once per week and 7th grade every day on computer skills, would rather see information literacy skills curriculum. 8th grade once every other week.